



August 6, 2012
Jerusalem



ANNOUNCEMENT

American Consulate General in Jerusalem Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) Local Grants Informational Sessions

The U.S. Department of State's Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) mission is to create *vibrant partnerships* between America and the citizens of the Middle East and North Africa. MEPI supports citizens' efforts aimed at economic, social, and political empowerment, expanding opportunities for women and youth, and helping communities create positive change throughout the region.

MEPI directly funds local organizations across the West Bank and the Gaza Strip at the community level. MEPI local grants promote greater freedom and opportunity for people in the region. Through supporting local partners to implement innovative projects, MEPI provides an opportunity for Palestinian civil society to identify and solve challenges at the local level. Since 2004, MEPI Jerusalem has funded over forty local partners to implement grants totaling over 2 million USD.

MEPI invites you to attend an informational session on the 2012/13 MEPI local grants cycle. NGOs based in Jerusalem, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip are welcome to attend any of the sessions detailed below. Each informational session will include an overview of the American Consulate General in Jerusalem's efforts in the West Bank and Gaza, an explanation of the priorities and objectives of MEPI local grants, and a review of the grant application process. MEPI staff from the American Consulate General in Jerusalem will conduct the sessions.

MEPI will accept proposals (applications) October 1st – 31st, 2012 from local civil society organizations — including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), universities, professional organizations, youth groups, and women's groups. Applications will be evaluated through a competitive process. Local grant budgets are typically \$25,000 - \$100,000 USD and may be implemented for up to one year.

More information can be found at <http://jerusalem.usconsulate.gov>

The Consulate will be holding six informational seminars at the following locations and dates:

Hebron: <u>Date:</u> Monday, August 27, 2012 <u>Time:</u> 11 a.m. <u>Location:</u> Children Happiness Center, Ein Sarah <u>Tel:</u> 0599-759-494	Jericho: <u>Date:</u> Wednesday, August 29, 2012 <u>Time:</u> 11 a.m. <u>Location:</u> American Corner, Jericho Public Municipality Library <u>Tel:</u> 02-232-1560
Nablus: <u>Date:</u> Wednesday, September 5, 2012 <u>Time:</u> 10 a.m. <u>Location:</u> Tomorrow's Youth Organization (TYO), Khalet el A'moud-Zafer Al Masri Building <u>Tel:</u> 09-238-0352	Jenin: <u>Date:</u> Wednesday, September 5, 2012 <u>Time:</u> 2:00 p.m. <u>Location:</u> Partners for Sustainable Development, Palestine Street, Sabbareen Building – 3 rd Floor <u>Tel:</u> 04-243-6550
Jerusalem: <u>Date:</u> Thursday September 6, 2012 <u>Time:</u> 11:00 a.m. <u>Location:</u> America House, Nablus Road <u>Tel:</u> 02-563-4029	Gaza via Digital Video Conference: <u>Date:</u> Wednesday, September 12, 2012 <u>Time:</u> 2:00 p.m. <u>Contact:</u> Issam Mattar <u>Tel:</u> 02-622-7101

In order to attend a session you must RSVP via email by COB August 23, 2012 to:
MEPIjerusalem@state.gov.

For more information please contact the MEPI Jerusalem Office at 02-622-7101.

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